

BILL NO. BL 2019-1599 (O'CONNELL, ROBERTS, & OTHERS) – This ordinance would require the Department of General Services to create sustainable or “green” building standards for buildings owned by the Metropolitan Government and amend Chapter 16.60 regarding sustainable building design standards for new and renovated Metropolitan buildings and facilities.

By January 1, 2020, General Services would be required to develop a strategic management plan for reducing energy and water use in metro-owned buildings. This would include timelines and cost estimates for implementing:

1. A retrofit program across 9% of metro-owned buildings by square footage between 2021 and 2024, with a goal of achieving 30% reductions in energy and greenhouse gas emissions.
2. A net-zero energy retrofit program across at least 12.5% of metro-owned building between 2026 and 2032.

Further, Chapter 16.60 of the Metro Code would be amended to require Metro to seek LEEDTM “Platinum” level certification, instead of the current LEEDTM “Silver”, as well as update references to the current year. This program currently applies to new construction and additions over 5,000 gross square feet or projects over \$2 million.

Fiscal Note: Pursuant to Metro Code section 16.60.110, the General Services Department submits an annual report to the Metropolitan Council detailing the environmental performance and operation of buildings that subscribe to LEED sustainable standards. Previous reports have consistently reflected operational cost savings. However, the costs to implement the currently proposed requirements, as well as the amount of savings that could result from the reduced energy and water use, has not yet been determined by General Services.